

**MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON COMMERCE**

**Tuesday, May 8, 2007**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Room 519, House Office Building**

**Chair Meisner** called the Standing Committee on Commerce to order.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Reps. Meisner, Robert Jones, Accavitti, Byrum, Clemente, Coulouris, Dean, Griffin, Johnson, Sheltroun, Simpson, Valentine, Hildenbrand, Huizenga, Palsrok, Stakoe, Rick Jones, Knollenberg, Meltzer (19/19)

**MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED:** None (0/19)

**Representative Hildenbrand** moved to adopt the minutes from the meeting held on May 1, 2007. Hearing no objection, the **motion prevailed** with unanimous consent.

**Chair Meisner** laid **House Bill 4261** before the committee:

HB 4261   Sak	Economic development; other; convention and tourism promotion act; provide for.
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**Representative Sak** explained the intent of the bill and answered questions.

**Steve Wilson**, representing the Grand Rapids/Kent County Convention and Visitors Bureau, testified in **support** of the bill and answered questions. He also submitted written testimony.

**Lee Hladki**, representing the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau, testified in **support** of the bill and answered questions.

**Kenric Hall**, representing the Radisson Hotel of Lansing and the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau, testified in **support** of the.

**Larry Alexander**, representing the Detroit Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau, testified in **support** of the bill and answered questions.

**James McBryde**, representing the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, testified in **support** of the bill and answered questions.

The following people submitted testimony cards in **support** of the bill, but did not wish to speak:

**Bret Marr**, representing the Detroit Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau;

**Robert Selig**, representing the Capital Region Airport Authority;

**Tim DaMan**, representing the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce;

**Joel Heberlein**, representing the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center;

**Cindy Bowen**, representing the Sheraton Hotel of Lansing;

**Eric Hart**, representing the Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority;

**Michael Hawks**, representing the City of Lansing; and

**Don Van Singel**, representing the City of Grand Rapids.

Written material in **support** of the bill was also submitted by the **Mid-Michigan Business and Tourism Executives** and **George Heartwell**, Mayor of the City of Grand Rapids.

**Chair Meisner** announced the committee would go at ease, the time being **9:59 a.m.**

The **Chair** reconvened the committee, the time being **10:01 a.m.**

**Representative Hildenbrand** offered the following amendments to **House Bill 4261**:

1. Amend page 2, line 21, by striking out “10 full-time” and inserting “14 full-time equivalent”.

2. Amend page 2, following line 23, by inserting:  
“(vi) Regularly books conventions at the community’s largest convention center, which generate hotel room nights throughout the surrounding area.”.

**Representative Dean** moved to adopt the amendments to **House Bill 4261**.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

**YEAS:** Reps. Meisner, Robert Jones, Accavitti, Byrum, Clemente, Coulouris, Dean, Griffin, Johnson, Sheltroun, Simpson, Valentine, Hildenbrand, Huizenga, Stakoe, Rick Jones (16/19)

**NAYS:** Rep. Meltzer (1/19)

**PASS:** Reps. Palsrok and Knollenberg (2/19)

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the **motion prevailed**.

**Representative Byrum** moved to report **House Bill 4261**, with recommendation, as **Substitute (H-1)**.

**FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:**

**YEAS:** Reps. Meisner, Robert Jones, Accavitti, Byrum, Clemente, Coulouris, Dean, Johnson, Sheltroun, Hildenbrand, Huizenga, Stakoe, Rick Jones (13/19)

**NAYS:** Reps. Palsrok and Meltzer (2/19)

**PASS:** Reps. Griffin, Simpson, Valentine, Knollenberg (4/19)

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the **motion prevailed**.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the **Chair** declared the meeting adjourned, the time being **10:04 a.m.**

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**Representative Andy Meisner, Chair**

Jean Hamelin, Committee Clerk  
(517) 373-5632